



CLUB MEETS EVERY WEDNESDAY, 6:30 PM AT ANGELICO'S



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AUGUST 24, 2011

THE RENAISSANCE OF CHINESE CULTURE



Ernan Ni, Ph.D., Connecticut Chinese Culture Association

Dr. Ernan Ni, of the Connecticut Chinese Culture Association, was proud to share the modern-day rebirth of ancient Chinese culture with the members of our club this week. He and his associate Jason Hu, introduced by Rotarian Stewart Danziger, highlighted the recent history of Chinese cultural renaissance, whose key is the reestablishment of the “oneness between man and heaven” through “cultivation practice.”

Comparing cultivation practice to the Rotary Four-Way Test, Dr. Ni cited its three major schools or traditions: the truth of Taoism, the compassion of



The truth of Taoism

Buddhism and the virtue of Confucianism.

Cultivation practice impacts nearly every aspect of Chinese culture, including fine arts, medicine, the writing system, education, and martial arts.

The Marxist “Cultural Revolution” imposed throughout China during the last century interrupted — and in fact nearly destroyed — thousands of years of cultural history. The “four olds” — thought, culture, custom, habit — were dismissed as superstitious and worthless, and aggressive measures were taken to

destroy everything from physical structures to the Chinese system of writing.

爱 → 爱

“Love without a Heart”

Simplifications in written characters, for example, undermined their intrinsic symbolic and historical meaning. Likewise, statues and other visual icons were distorted and twisted to reflect the cultural values of the revolution. A decades-long chasm grew between ancient, genuine Chinese culture and the “sham” Chinese culture of the new regime.

Since a vital aspect of culture is to serve as a society’s ethical mirror and guide — the arts, literature, religion

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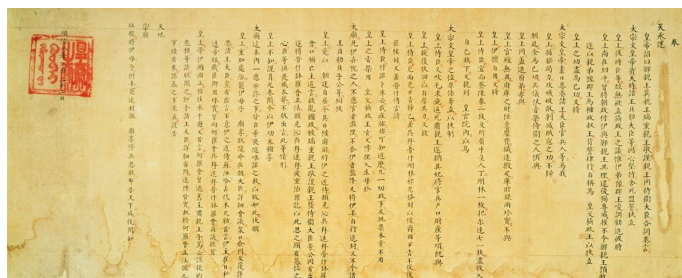
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and philosophy both reflect and reinforce the core ethical values of that society — then altering or distorting aspects of an established culture is an effective and efficient way of gaining control and reorienting the values of a population.

One avenue available to modern society for rediscovering the ancient culture of China is *chi-gong*, health-improving exercises that support spiritual, moral

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The Imperial Edict (by Shunzhi Emperor in Qing Dynasty)



MAKE UP AT ANY ROTARY CLUB

MONDAY

7:00 AM NORWICH
SUNRISE COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT
(860) 889-1886
12:15 PM HARTFORD
HARTFORD CLUB
(860) 522-1271
12:15 PM WEST HARTFORD
POND HOUSE CAFE
(860) 231-8823
6:00 PM GLASTONBURY
THE GALLERY
(860) 659-2656

TUESDAY

12:00 PM WILLIMANTIC
ANGELINOS MANSFIELD
(860) 455-6973
7:30 AM BERLIN/KENSINGTON
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
(860) 829-1033
12:15 PM BLOOMFIELD
WINTONBURY HILLS COUNTRY CLUB
(860) 242-1401
12:15 PM FARMINGTON
APRICOTS RESTAURANT
(860) 673-5405
6:00 PM MANCHESTER
MANCHESTER COUNTRY CLUB
(860) 646-0103

WEDNESDAY

12:00 PM EAST HARTFORD
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL CLUBHOUSE
(203) 644-1945
12:15 PM NEWINGTON
INDIAN HILLS COUNTRY CLUB
(860) 665-7817

THURSDAY

7:15 AM SIMSBURY-GRANBY
HOPMEADOW COUNTRY CLUB
(860) 658-7623
7:30 AM WINDSOR-WINDSOR
LOCKS
RAMADA INN
(860) 623-9494
12:15 PM NEW BRITAIN
YMCA
(860) 229-3787
6:00 PM EAST HADDAM
GELSTON HOUSE
(860) 537-6070

FRIDAY

7:00 AM STONINGTON
WATER ST, #7 STONINGTON COM-
MONS
(860) 536-7754
7:30 AM AVON/CANTON
AVON OLD FARMS HOTEL
(860) 677-1651

THE MEETING

President-elect Barbara Moore presided
Pledge of Allegiance
My Country 'tis of Thee
Blessing by Fred Hansen
Members Present – 25
Guest Rotarians – 1
Guests – 2



President-elect Barbara Moore presents the bell to Jason Hu and Ernan Ni of the Connecticut Chinese Culture Association.



Guest Rotarian
Jay Stewart of
East Hartford

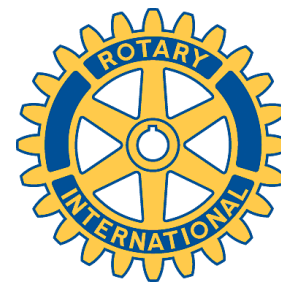
ANNOUNCEMENTS

A golf outing will be held at Blackledge Golf Course during the first week in October. Players and sponsors are still needed. More information will be forthcoming.

There are many opportunities for speakers to address our club in the coming weeks. If you know of an interesting speaker, or

would like to hear about a particular topic, please contact Jack Solomon.

Carolyn Bernardo shared a new Rotary Foundation donation card, printed by Suburban Stationery, that will make donating easy. Donations may be made on behalf of, or in honor of, or in the name of individuals. See Carolyn for details.



The Four Way Test

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



Photos courtesy of Tom Sweeney

UPCOMING EVENTS

East Hampton Public Schools
Judith Golden
September 7

Center of Town Businesses
Todd Schrager and Kim Page
September 14

Nigerian School Program
Pastor Martin, Hope Church
September 21

Rotary Scholar
Giana Gleeson
November 9

Archaeology
Nicholas Bellantoni, CT
State Archaeologist
January 25

Please let Jack Solomon know of any prospective speakers you may know or want to hear.



SERGEANT-AT-ARMS



FINES

Gladys Yeager-Smith collected fines for wearing shorts or jeans, and for small pins missing.

SAD DOLLARS

Many people were sad

about the impending hurricane. Ken Barber was sad that his office had flooded and everything had been ruined. Gladys was sad that she'd have to take all the boats out of the marina before the storm. She was also sad she would not be here next week.

HAPPY DOLLARS

Folks were happy that Gladys raises so much money for the Rotary, but Mattie Walton was happy she wouldn't be coming next week!

ROTARY ON FACEBOOK

Rotarians help provide service through fellowship, and social networking is one of the many ways Rotarians are connecting online. Visit Rotary International's official social networking pages and join the conversation.

See who some of the thousands of fans are on RI's official Facebook page. You'll find links to RI news stories and videos as well as comments and discussions.

Rotary International

Rotary District 7980 Youth Exchange

End Polio Now

Join The Rotary Foundation of RI's End Polio Now cause page on Facebook. You can make a donation to support polio eradication, invite others to be a part of the cause,

and keep track of how many people you've recruited.

Rotary Centers

Connect with Rotary World Peace Fellows, who promote national and international cooperation, peace, and the successful resolution of conflict throughout their lives, in their careers, and through service activities.

Rotary World Peace Fellowships

Join this Facebook cause page to help provide educational opportunities for those interested in studying peace building and conflict resolution

Rotary Foundation alumni

Read about Rotary Foundation alumni on their official Facebook page and connect with alumni from around the world.

THE RENAISSANCE OF CHINESE CULTURE (CON'T.)

Continued from page 1

and physical health. Without explicit reference to "cultivation practice", *chi-gong* has successfully reconnected millions of modern Chinese people with thousands of years of ancient culture.

Shen Yun, "the world's premier classical Chinese dance company," provides another opportunity to glimpse into the ancient culture of China. Combining traditional dance, music,



costumes, backdrops, and literature, *Shen Yun* is a revival of the "pastoral

beauty, imperial drama, and the glory of an ancient civilization."

Dr. Ni extended an invitation to all Rotarians to attend one of the upcoming local performances of *Shen Yun* (see information below). He expressed his appreciation to Rotary for the opportunity to share China's cultural renaissance, and hopes to have similar opportunities with local schools and organizations in the future.

Images courtesy of Connecticut Chinese Culture Association and Shen Yun Performing Arts

Gift of Life



Rotary District 7980 Gift of Life Foundation
501 (c)(3) Non-Profit

Join us for an evening of fun
great conversation, food, drink,
music, premium cigars for the
aficionados, silent and live
auction!

All smoking will be done on an outside
patio only!

When	Friday, September 16, 2011	Drink	A Bacardi Bar Sponsored by: Barcardi USA & The Bacardi Family Foundation
Time	5:30 to 9:00 PM	Guest Tickets	\$75.00 pp includes food & drink.
Where	Homewood Suites by Hilton Stratford 6905 Main St. Stratford, CT 06614 Telephone: 203-377-3322	VIP Tickets	\$100.00 pp includes the above, plus gift bag with a selection of premium cigars, cutter and a few surprise items. Limited 50 only!
Food	BBQ Provided by "Have Grill Will Travel" Traditional comfort food, slow cooked in an authentic Southern- style BBQ Pit Smoker	Sponsorships	All sponsors will be acknowledged at the event. \$1000.00- includes 5 tickets \$500.00 -includes 3 tickets

Name: _____ Address: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Number of Guest Tickets: ____ X \$75.00 = \$ _____

Number of V.I.P. Tickets: ____ X \$100.00 = \$ _____

Sponsorships

\$1,000.00 No. of Tickets: ____ Type: ____ = \$ _____

\$500.00 No. of Tickets: ____ Type: ____ = \$ _____

Sorry, I/we can't make the event, here's

a donation! \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make check payable to:

Rotary District 7980 Gift of Life Foundation
120 Promenade Dr.
Hamden, CT 06514

Upon receipt of your payment event ticket(s) will be
provided.

Additional information please call Lynda Hammond at
203-281-7540 or lynda.hammond1@sbcglobal.net

Happy Hour for a Cause!

Rotary District 7980 Gift of Life Foundation a non-profit 501(c)(3) Corporation, has joined hands with our Dominican Republic partners and fellow Rotarians to provide a sustainable solution for the care of Dominican children born with congenital heart defects (CHD).

At present, 8,000 to 10,000 kids are awaiting heart surgery in the Dominican Republic. This number increases by approximately 1000 or 1% of all live births each year. Sadly, an estimated 25% or 250 of these kids die annually due to the lack of adequate pediatric cardiac care.



What we do as a team

Happy Hour For a Cause!

- ♥ Provide volunteer surgical mission teams comprised of pediatric cardiovascular surgeons, cardiologists, anesthesiologists, PICU physicians/nurses, and biomedical engineering support. Teams provide cardiac care to between 20-25 kids on each two-week trip four times a year.
- ♥ Volunteer team members partner with our local Dominican medical team, providing training, exchange of ideas, techniques and sharing each others cultures.
- ♥ Funding for medical supplies, medications and instrumentation so desperately needed.
- ♥ Our volunteers receive far more than they give. When a child says, "Thank you for fixing my heart, now I can play with the other kids."

Major Event Sponsors



Special Overnight Rates for this event!

\$79.00 Includes a full breakfast

Homewood Suites by Hilton Stratford
6905 Main St.
Stratford, CT 06614
Telephone: 203-377-3322